

Prices and Prospects.

ABOR SHORTAGE WILL HELP STIFFEN COKE MARKET, WHICH IT BEGINS TO NEED

The Supply of Men Will be
Principal Factor in
Holding

PRICES FOR THE SECOND HALF

Wage Advances Designed to
Draw Men: Contracting for Furnace
Coke and By-Product Oven
Construction Proceed in Leisurely Way.

Special to The Weekly Courier.
PITTSBURGH, April 19.—Reports
already coming to Pittsburgh of
the production being curtailed at
the plants on account of labor
shortage, and this is taken to represent
the beginning of the shortage
at usually occurs over the Easter
holidays. The coke market rather
than in need of just such a stiffening
as such a condition would afford,
prompt coke has been too low the
at fortnight in view of the general
condition entertained as to its value
the remainder of the year. As
ported recently, several contracts
have been made over the second half
\$3.00, with only one or two at
\$.50, and if these contracts were
operatively priced spot coke at \$2.25 to
\$.50, the range of the market in the
at week is too wide.

The labor scarcity is of course one
of the principal factors in holding
the prices for the second half of the
year, seeing that there has thus far
been a sufficient supply of coke for
blast furnaces and there is scarcely
any chance to increase pig iron
production over the present rate of
14,400,000 tons a year. The labor
shortage is beyond question extremely
serious, as is shown by the fact
at the steel mills are now putting
rough a second advance in common
for wages, following the general
advance of February 3 and amounting
to an average of over 10 per cent.

public Iron & Steel Company,
Youngstown Steel & Tube Company
and the United States Steel Corporation
have just announced a common
advance of 10 per cent, the
steel Corporation's advance to be
effective May 1, and practically all
other steel interests will no doubt
follow suit promptly. Never before
a steel industry advanced wages
in the same year. It is simply
a case of trying to get more men,
and conditions as to security that
apply at the steel mills apply in the
coke industry, also.

The decline in spot furnace coke
is discouraged consumers from
entering into contracts for second
half. If contract prices declined with
spot prices they would probably
eager buyers, but they recognize
at asking prices on contract would
be reduced on account of the de-
cline in prompt, which may prove to
be purely temporary.

Contracting for furnace coke is pro-
ceeding leisurely, now that the bulk
of the contract business, for the
beginning July 1, has already
gone. The market is thoroughly
established at \$3.50, with some
orders expecting to get \$4.00 eventu-
ally. Spot foundry is firm at \$2.75,
the \$4.00 occasionally obtained. The
market in general is quotable as follows:

at furnace \$2.25 to \$2.50
direct furnace \$2.50 to \$2.75
of foundry \$1.75 to \$1.90
contract foundry \$2.50 to \$2.75

Construction work on by-product
ovens appears to be proceeding very
slowly. In general it is said that the
plans are scheduled for com-
pletion this half year are about
two months behind. Plants ex-
pected to start producing this
month will do well if they
try out the expectations in July in-
stead. By-product ovens under
construction or definitely projected total
are over 2,000, a trifle less than half
of the total expected by the new
owners. The market is quotable as follows:

at furnace \$1.00 to \$1.20
at foundry \$1.20 to \$1.40
at steel \$1.40 to \$1.60
at blast \$1.60 to \$1.80

Building New Houses and Sinking
New Shaft at Greene County Plant.

The Crucible Coal Company is en-
larging its plant at Crucible, near
Rice's Landing. Eighty miners' houses
are to be erected and an air
shaft will be driven on the Young
farm, a new field, and 50 dwellings for
miners will be erected at that place.

The Crucible Coal Company owns
6,000 acres of coal land in Greene
county.

Artic Coal Company Sells.
A Norwegian syndicate has pur-
chased for \$1,875,000 the property of
the American Artic Coal Company at
Advent Bay and Greene Harbor,
Spitzbergen.

Fire Old Ovens.
The old coke plant of the Penn-
sylvania Coal & Coke Company at
ovens at Hastings, Cambria county
was fired up this week.

Review of the Connellsville Coke Trade.

Statistical Summary.

PRODUCTION.		WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 1916.				WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 1916.			
DISTRICT.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	
Connellsville.	21,529	18,897	2,632	246,590	21,729	18,726	2,803	246,645	
Lower Connellsville.	17,525	16,989	1,536	218,880	17,525	16,972	1,553	219,019	
Totals.	39,054	35,886	4,168	465,470	39,254	35,698	4,356	465,664	

FURNACE OVENS.		WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 1916.				WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 1916.			
DISTRICT.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	DISTRICT.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.
Connellsville.	17,401	15,586	1,821	204,129	Connellsville.	17,401	15,518	1,885	201,867
Lower Connellsville.	5,552	5,055	497	66,583	Lower Connellsville.	5,552	5,086	497	66,590
Totals.	22,953	20,641	2,318	270,703	22,953	20,604	2,382	268,457	

MERCHANT OVENS.		WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 1916.				WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 1916.			
DISTRICT.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	DISTRICT.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.
Connellsville.	4,128	3,817	311	32,476	Connellsville.	4,128	3,813	315	32,478
Lower Connellsville.	11,073	10,964	1,069	140,747	Lower Connellsville.	11,073	10,882	1,086	132,320
Totals.	15,201	14,781	1,380	173,223	15,201	14,695	1,401	137,297	

SHIPMENTS.		WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 1916.				WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 1916.			
To.	Cars.	In.	Out.	Tons.	To.	Cars.	In.	Out.	Tons.
To Pittsburgh.	4,569	4,569	4,569	44,688	To Pittsburgh.	4,569	4,569	4,569	44,688
To Points West of the Region.	6,519	6,519	6,519	62,844	To Points West of the Region.	6,519	6,519	6,519	62,844
To Points East of the Region.	1,601	1,601	1,601	15,344	To Points East of the Region.	1,601	1,601	1,601	15,344
Totals.	12,689	12,689	12,689	122,876	Totals.	12,689	12,689	12,689	122,876

ALICIA CASE DOES NOT INVOLVE COKE REGION, IS CLAIM

Counsel for W. Harry Brown
Calls Railroad Apprehen-
sion Baseless.

ENTITLED TO PITTSBURG RATE

Contention is Put Forward That the
Alicia Mine is Within the Pittsburgh
Zone and Should Have Rate Re-
gardless of Any Other Factors.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The
Connellsville rate group is not affected
and there is no reason for apprehen-
sion that the placing of the Alicia
mine, owned by W. Harry Brown, in
the Pittsburgh group would affect the
Connellsville group, declares the at-
torneys for Brown in a final brief filed
with the Interstate Commerce
Commission. The filing of this
brief, with the oral hearing of the
case to which the commission has just
listened, now places the entire
body. A decision, it is hoped by the
attorneys for the commission, will be
reached by June 1, although the over-
whelming amount of work now before
the commission makes it somewhat
doubtful if the final pronouncement
will be handed down that soon.

"We are not here concerned with
the rates on coal from the Connellsville
region," argue Brown's attorneys,
and they complain because of the fact
that counsel for the carriers proclaim
"in glaring headlines on the outside
of their brief that this is the case of
rates on coal from the Connellsville
region."

They declare that "the Brown mine
is within the present lines of the
Pittsburgh district" and that, there-
fore, it is entitled geographically,
without considering any other mines,
to be included in the Pittsburgh group,
but that "it is arbitrarily denied the
Pittsburgh rates."

"It is said," the brief adds, "the
Connellsville region is a well recognized
region. Suppose it is—what of it?
Does that prevent a coal mine with-
in the geographical limits of the
Pittsburgh group, within the area of
the coal lands of a mine in the Pitts-
burgh group, within the same distance
from assembling points as other mines
in the Pittsburgh district—does that
prevent such a mine from having the
Pittsburgh district rates?"

"So is the Fairmont region a well
recognized rate group. But that does
not mean that the carriers can pick
out any mine naturally and logically
within the Pittsburgh district and justly
give it the Fairmont rates."

"In the brief for the carriers a great
deal is said about a difference between
the coal produced in the Pittsburgh
district and that in the Connellsville
district, and the point is attempted to
be made that the 'complaint herein
should pay a higher rate because he is
mining a different kind of coal from
that of his neighbor, the Frick Coke
Company. It may be that a large part
of the coal in the Connellsville dis-
trict differs in the quality or character
of coke it produces from some of the
coal in some portion of the Pittsburgh
district. This fact, however, has nothing
to do with the present case. There is
no difference whatever between the
coal produced by the Brown mine and
that produced by the Frick mine, and
numerous other mines in the Pitts-
burgh district—in no difference in quality,
in uses, or in markets. Of course, as
to the Frick mine this is obvious from
the fact that the Frick coal surrounds
the Brown coal."

As to the contention on the part
of the carriers that Brown has been
shipping coke, the latter's attorneys
say: "Is that any reason why we
should not have a just rate on coal?
He has the coal; he is prepared to
ship it. He cannot longer success-
fully ship coke. The tonnage on
coke will be lost to the railroads. He
offers 2,000 tons of coal daily to the
carriers. He offers it on precisely
the same terms as his neighbor, the
H. C. Frick Coke Company, seeking
no greater service of transportation
but, in fact, a less service."

GAINS IN EASTERN SHIPMENTS ALMOST BALANCE LOSS WEST

The Upper Connellsville and
Greensburg Districts
at Good Pace.

TRAFFIC TROUBLES LESSEN

As Result of Persistent and System-
atic Efforts of the Railroads to
"Clean-up Things" All Along the
Line; Big Lake Trade in Prospect.

The curtailment by Western fur-
naces of their requirements for coke
from the Upper Connellsville and
Greensburg districts, commenced
a fortnight ago, continued in
its effect on the shipments of last week.
While the falling off in movement West
was slightly more than 8,000 tons, the
loss was largely compensated by
heavier shipments to Eastern points.
The better movement of loads to des-
tination has been bringing accumu-
lations of overdue shipments to Western
consumers, hence there has been no
urgent need to maintain a high rate
of new consignments to that quarter.

Except for the decrease in Western
shipments and the near return to
average weekly Eastern shipments
there were no noteworthy features in
the trade of the past week. Labor and
car supply continue satisfactory. The
coal movement is becoming freer as
transportation difficulties disappear
before persistent and systematic ef-
forts of the railroads to "clean-up
things." Lake trade is beginning to
get under way but no great activity is
looked for before May 1, when a large
tonnage is expected with as swift a
movement as conditions will allow.

Shipments in tons from the two re-
gions for the week ending Saturday,
April 15, were as follows:

	East.	West.	Total.
Upper Conn.	8,611	10,802	19,413
Greensburg	10,608	10,012	20,620
Totals	19,219	20,814	39,033

Compared with the previous week
these totals show an increase of 2,332
tons in Eastern shipments and a de-
crease of 6,303 tons in Western ship-
ments, or a net decrease of 3,971 tons
in movement out of both districts. The
decrease in Western shipments oc-
curred in the Upper Connellsville dis-
trict. The Greensburg district showing
an increase to these points while
both districts benefited by a larger
movement eastward.

The following tabulation shows the
output of these districts by weeks in
tons of 2,000 pounds for 1916 to
date:

Week	Upper Conn.	West.	Total
Jan. 1.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Jan. 8.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Jan. 15.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Jan. 22.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Jan. 29.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Feb. 5.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Feb. 12.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Feb. 19.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Feb. 26.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Mar. 5.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Mar. 12.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Mar. 19.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Mar. 26.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Apr. 2.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Apr. 9.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Apr. 16.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Apr. 23.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Apr. 30.....	10,372	13,016	23,388

The output of the Upper Connellsville
and Greensburg districts for the
regions for 1916 was as follows:

Week.	East.	West.	Total.
Jan. 1.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
Jan. 8.....	10,372	13,016	23,388
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It is said that numerous tests have
been made of coals in different fields,
including the Lower Connellsville and
Monongahela river districts with a
view to determining their adaptability
to use at the Clairton plant. The re-
sults indicate that the coals of these
districts fully measure up to the re-
quirements not only as the best coal
from which to make by-product, but
as being richest in those elements
which produce the highest percentages
of the most valuable by-products.

As to the contention on the part
of the carriers that Brown has been
shipping coke, the latter's attorneys
say: "Is that any reason why we
should not have a just rate on coal?
He has the coal; he is prepared to
ship it. He cannot longer success-
fully ship coke. The tonnage on
coke will be lost to the railroads. He
offers 2,000 tons of coal daily to the
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Production and Output.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS DECREASE AND COST OF MAKING COKE GOES HIGHER

COKE TRADE SUMMARY.
The coke trade of the Connellsville
region is characterized just now by
diminishing production and
shipments, with the prospect
of increased costs and lower
profits. Shipments of furnace
to make needed repairs in re-
sulting demand, which tends to
reduce in lower shipment records
as shown by the drop from 477,000
tons to 454,000 tons. The
second advance in wage rates
for common labor by the United
States Steel Corporation is
creating some apprehension in
merchant coke shippers, in view
as it is taken to mean the in-
crease will apply to the coke re-
gion.

The labor factor is beginning
to enter largely into the trade.
The present shortage has a
tendency to stiffen the market
and if it becomes more acute
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The Weekly Courier.

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THURSDAY MORNING, APR. 20, 1916.

OUR PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

The city of Conneltsville in the making has had some severe bumps, and there have been times when unfriendly eyes have professed to mark its retrogression. Especially was this the case a couple of years ago when in common with all industrial communities we were overwhelmed with the beneficent results of The New Freedom. President Wilson's characterization of the third great Democratic Tariff experiment since the Civil War, considering the fact that the Conneltsville coke region and the steel and iron trade generally went back 65% on that wave of Democratic progress, Conneltsville was fortunate to hold its own as well as it did.

Conneltsville is so because it is the natural trade center of the largest portion of the coke region which bears its name and which it supplies with everything from the gas to the coke plant gear; and now that the Conneltsville coke trade has increased to practically 100% of the capacity of its coke ovens there has been a corresponding expansion of Conneltsville's business and income, hence this Progress and Prosperity number.

The advertising columns of this 21-page newspaper reflect the progress of the city and the prosperity of its business life, not to mention some measure of enterprise on the part of The Courier itself. The past history of Conneltsville printed in our news columns indicates that the community has been a manufacturing center from the days of its incorporation as a borough. Through the ensuing period of over a century it has never ceased to have mills, factories and shops. Its industrial projecting has been bold and vigorous and unceasing.

Conneltsville was an iron center long years before Pittsburgh laid any claim to that distinction. The hills of Fayette county contained a native ore yielding some thirty per cent of iron. The manufacture of iron west of the mountains was a necessity. The shrewd capitalists of that day recognized the necessity and grasped the opportunity. They dotted this country with charcoal furnaces, foundries and forges. The country west of the mountains was no longer obliged to buy English iron. It is a rather singular circumstance that the Conneltsville coke region, once a great American iron trade section, seems to have retired from the iron business when it began to engage in the production of the finest furnace fuel in the world, and from that time forward Pittsburgh dated its rise as an iron and steel center.

Conneltsville was a railroad town fifty years ago. Before the glories of the National Pike were dimmed and when the great western railroad systems were still a dream, Conneltsville had her railroad. In this matter the enterprise of the citizens was little short of colossal. They voted a bonded indebtedness of \$100,000 and applied it as a stock subscription to the Pittsburgh & Conneltsville Railroad Company. In other words they mortgaged the town for about all it was worth.

The history of Conneltsville throughout its 110 years of corporate life has been one of unhesitating enterprise and unvarying progress. Prosperity has sometimes failed, but the spirit of industrial and commercial adventure has never died, and it is today perhaps more wide awake than it is today despite some discouraging circumstances. To the energy and enterprise of its people Conneltsville adds the natural advantage of an attractive manufacturing site. It is able to offer:

1. Direct railroad connections with the great trunk lines east and west with the corresponding advantage in rates and deliveries.

2. Cheap coal and coke and natural gas delivered at the source.

3. An unfailing supply of fine water.

4. Cheaper electric power than Niagara offers.

With these advantages Conneltsville becomes an ideal manufacturing site especially for smaller industries. It is not only the industrial center of the Conneltsville coke region, but it is also the West Penn Power Center, where the most modern power may be had at the lowest rates.

THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS. Dawson is the center of the Methodist Episcopal faith this week, and Linden Hall, the beautiful home of Sara Boyd Cochran, is a veritable House of Bishops. It is rare, indeed, that the Bishops of this great branch of the Protestant faith are entertained by a single person. Perhaps this is the first occasion in years. Members of the church have the inclination, but they do not have the means. Few persons in private life have built themselves such fine homes as that in Saint James Park. It has been much commented on by travelers and others. It may be briefly described as an English estate with American appointments. The Bishops will be interested in knowing that it is part of that "blue land" which Captain Crawford picked out for Colonel Washington 150 years ago. It is located in the neighborhood of "Poverty Neck" and looked like it until the owner "made the wilderness bloom as the rose." The Courier welcomes the Methodist Bishops to Fayette county and congratulates their charming hostess on her thorough preparation.

It will not be necessary for the oil trust to deny that the water main has been extended to its Conneltsville depot for the purpose of watering its oil or its stock.

THE CONNELLSVILLE STATUE.

The Courier is in receipt of a communication from one who signs himself, "A Booster for Conneltsville," expressing the hope that proper steps will be taken for the preservation of the statue of Zachariah Connel, now adorning the top of the Fourth Ward school building, which he understands "has been condemned and will no doubt be razed." He says:

"This brings up something of importance concerning the early history of the city, which we are all trying to preserve and add to as well, namely, What will become of the statue of Zachariah Connel? Will it be loosened and thrown carelessly to the ground to be broken and forever lost to the city and the school children, or will it be removed with care and preserved and later placed on the new building? As probably most of the newer residents of the city know little of the history of this statue or the man who carved it, it will not be taken care of as it should be. If the statue is in the same condition as the building, probably the statue with the help of the rest of the citizens and the foremost daily of the city can have a bronze likeness cast and placed in the new building with but very little expense."

The statue was carved by Worth Kilpatrick, the architect and builder of the building, who objected to the raising of the latter not because he desired it to stand as a monument to him, but because he thought its demolition unnecessary and extravagant. He is firm in the conviction that the building is safe from danger of collapse notwithstanding the report of the state building inspector, and he believes that it could be made fireproof, and wholly safe in all other respects, at a cost of \$20,000. But the people have voted that any doubts shall be resolved in favor of a new and modern building, which is highly desirable from any point of view. The old building will, therefore, come down and the statue with it.

But our correspondent need have no fear for the Zachariah Connel statue. It will be carefully preserved, either in the High School Hall of Fame or atop the new building. Being composed of wood, the statue is peculiarly susceptible to vandalism, and perhaps it would be safer on the roof from mischievous hands which sometimes just can't always behave. A bronze replica might be made for the High School hall. In any event, our correspondent may rest assured that the Zachariah Connel statue will not be lost to Conneltsville.

COKE REGION CENTERS.

There has been some good-natured badinage about the center of the Conneltsville coke region, but it seems that neither Conneltsville nor Uniontown have any loud complaint coming on the score of business. The Uniontown Herald says:

"Uniontown merchants Saturday were literally swamped by the influx of shoppers. The biggest day in the history of the coke region was distributed last week. Announcement was made of an increase in wages affecting 500 employees of two local factories. Plans are virtually completed and the contracts will soon be awarded for a quarter of a million dollars worth of new school buildings in the city. It is well that the local merchants, who have aided many families over the past few months, should benefit by these conditions. The week before Easter has become a Dress Up Week decreed by the inexorable order of custom which has made Easter Sunday the signal for the appearance of thousands in the latest of spring apparel. There is every reason why local merchants should be the beneficiaries of this demand. The very latest styles are shown in Uniontown stores. The prices are no higher than in the stores of larger cities. The money spent at home stays at home and the benefit becomes personal to everyone residing within the radius covered by the Uniontown merchants."

This statement so completely describes the situation in Conneltsville last Saturday that we could hardly add anything to it. There is this to be said for Conneltsville, however. It is a railroad and an industrial center with numerous works and shops which manufacture mining machinery on an extensive scale for the coke plants, and which add by that much to the inside prosperity of the city.

SCHOOL HOUSE COSTS.

The picture which we present in this issue of the proposed new school building to be erected in the Fourth Ward in room of that one condemned by the state inspector is truly imposing, and grave doubts have been expressed by competent judges whether a building of this size and character can be constructed within the limit of \$170,000.

The Courier will not pretend to determine this question at this time, but it thinks the circumstances make a word of warning not out of place. Because the people have entrusted them with the expenditure of \$250,000 for new school house construction in Conneltsville is no reason why the directors should wax extravagant in their notions; on the contrary, now is the time they should be at some pains to justify public confidence by wise and economical expenditure. Under no circumstances should the cost of these improvements exceed the amount of the bond issue. The directors should add to their cloth according to that yardstick.

During the bond issue campaign the directors were accused of being chiefly desirous of building a monument to themselves without any care as to its cost to the people. The Courier denounced this production as the chatter of ignorant prejudice. It would have been like a dog to deprecate in any degree from that publicly expressed judgment. It hopes the school directors will curb their worthy ambitions to the limit of their rather handsome appropriation. A floating indebtedness in connection with this improvement would be little short of a public scandal.

The Courier has confidence in the business capacity and personal integrity of the school directors.

Silgo promises to play the Predial Son act. Before we kill the fatted calf we ought to try to nab-kill some of the Vain Pretenders.

THE LAND.

The political views of our esteemed contemporary, the Conneltsville News, are charming in their simplicity. It has a faith in its national leaders which is beautiful. It is impressed with the great gobs of money which cluster thickly about the Democratic party like big bunches of bananas, and it wants the Republicans to know how much better off the Democrats are in this respect than their opponents. It says:

William J. Bryan's utterance on the fruits of the Democratic National convention will be a severe disappointment to many C. O. P. leaders who had been expecting the Commissioner to deliver a spirit of antagonism that might be embarrassing to the Democrats. In a recent issue of his paper, The Commonwealth, Bryan taken the statement that the President will be re-nominated by acclamation, and concludes his editorial utterance with the advice to all Democrats to "get to work."

This is highly amusing to persons of average political intelligence, who have long known that the Democratic nominee for President would be Woodrow Wilson because nobody else wanted the job of being thoroughly licked. Champ Clark voiced this sentiment some time ago. William J. Bryan is well aware that this is a poor year for any Democrat to run. He is willing to let his friend Woodrow accept the honors and the responsibilities of defending his record as President. It is going to be a big job and Bryan knows it.

The News opines that Bryan may desire to have something to say about framing the party platform. Wilson may perhaps be just as willing that Bryan shall write the platform in 1916 as he was that he should write it in 1912, and the President will no doubt have just as many mental reservations about following it.

The Saint Louis convention will be nothing if not harmonious, but it will be the harmony which unites in sending the lamb to sacrifice.

POLITICS AND DIPLOMACY.

The war with Mexico is over, Secretary Lansing announces that First Chief Alvarado has a right to demand the withdrawal of the American troops. The troops were getting too far away from home and never any nearer to Villa, so perhaps it is just as well to call them back for a fresh start this fall when the political campaign is on.

In the meantime, however, the administration has taken up the war with Germany again. A last warning to William is being prepared. He must modify his rules of submarine warfare or suffer the severest of American diplomatic relations. The substance of the President's contention is that Americans traveling on British boats must be protected in any attacks that are made by German submarines. The principle is unqualifiedly correct, but this will be its practical application.

The demand ignores the fact that this war has developed new conditions which have necessitated new rules of fighting, it ignores any rules of binding in actual war. The new rules of fighting are dead and human, but their inhumanity is not confined to Germany or the submarines. The United States should be able long before it attempts to interfere in the European war on the grounds of humanity.

There are plenty of home issues to occupy the attention of the voters in the coming presidential campaign.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL NEEDS.

The Conneltsville Cottage State Hospital seems to be under criticism at the hands of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Medical Education.

The trustees will no doubt be glad to meet any reasonable requests for more detail work in keeping the hospital records or any other matters purely of management, but must be supplied by the state, this hospital being a state institution.

Concerning those delinquencies which the trustees well know exist, they will be only too glad to have the co-operation and support of the Bureau of Medical Education in securing a proper appropriation with which to supply them at the earliest possible moment.

The trustees will also be happy to have the endorsement of the Bureau of Medical Education to the proposition made to the last Legislature for an appropriation to build a building for the treatment of cases other than surgical.

It is a standing reflection upon the charity of the state that it is willing to care for a poor miler who has a mangled foot or a finger which must be amputated, but that if he has typhoid fever or some kindred disease which needs careful nursing and medical attention he must take his chances in the cold village.

THE WATER COMPANY WAR.

Councilman Dugan's war on the Conneltsville Water Company has become a veritable death-struggle. He announces that he will attack the company's charter. Just what will happen after that is not apparent, but it is evident that the West Side aqueduct hopes to give the company the knock-out blow.

But it will probably be found that the courts will refuse to dissolve the charter of the water company for any causes which may have other legal remedies. The dissolution of a corporation's charter is equivalent to putting the corporation to death. The putting out of business of the Conneltsville Water Company would accomplish no good purpose and the courts do not lend themselves to private revenges. If the Conneltsville Water Company is not doing its whole duty toward the people of Conneltsville the courts or the Public Service Commission will compel them to do so, and it is the duty of the City Council to ask that such action be taken.

In the meantime the voters of Conneltsville have empowered the City Council to buy the Conneltsville water works. The Courier believes the city will buy a white elephant, but if the Council think otherwise we will have to be content.

The People do Rule.

Another woman claims to be the wife of Harry Thax. It's no wonder Harry has lost interest in the fair sex.

After fifteen years of hesitation on the part of manufacturers, steel rails have been advanced from \$28 to \$33 per ton.

Abe Martin.



You never see any flame of the silent olive tree's heady enough rope and the olive tree you see. The banquet at the Melodion Hall tonight will be a draw with affair as a convention of these who have nothing to wear. Speaking of robes, Mrs. Telford Meeks reports that it is not paper, manager today.

ALICIA COAL RATE CASE.

The Conneltsville coke operators are lurching their way into the Pittsburgh radius and their mines will soon take the Pittsburgh coal rate. The entering wedge is Alicia. It will probably let in the Lower Conneltsville region. If the Pittsburgh coal rate is extended to this part of the coke field it will have to be extended to all of it.

The Conneltsville coke region mines are entitled to the Pittsburgh coal rate by every consideration of propriety and justice. They are geologically and geographically a portion of the great Pittsburgh field. The Conneltsville region has been operated extensively for forty years through its coal into coke upon which its consumers have paid rates which were always liberal and often excessive. The Conneltsville region cannot ask for a drawback because the drawback is banned by law and banished by modern practice. But it can and will demand, not as compensation for past discriminations but as a matter of justice in the present, that it shall take the Pittsburgh coal rate now that the operators are being forced into the coal business.

It is anticipated that there will be a demand for Conneltsville coal for by-product coking plants being built at a number of steel plants and furnaces running on Conneltsville coke and the Conneltsville operators ought to be put in position to furnish this coal as reasonably as any Pittsburgh district operator.

The Alicia case is very interesting to Conneltsville coke operators. It may not be their floor but it is at least the Entering Wedge.

THE SCHOOL BOND ISSUE.

The proposition of the Conneltsville School Board to issue \$50,000 of bonds for the purpose of building a new and modern school building in place of the old Fourth Ward building, which has been declared unsafe by state building inspector, was assented to by the voters at a special election held yesterday by an emphatic majority.

The people realized the doubts in favor of new construction on the principle that an ounce of safety is worth pounds of cure, especially when children have passed beyond the power of it.

They rejected the utterly selfish doctrine that because they received a limited education in an old-fashioned, unsafe and unsanitary building such a building should be good enough for their children. They love their children.

They endorsed the spirit of progress which characterizes the action of the directors. They would have our schools so far forward that not half of our children would have to go backward. They have faith in the future of Conneltsville.

They believe that their children "learn faster and better" under modern educational methods, and they are strongly in sympathy with such methods, including the teaching of that very valuable and necessary accomplishment, swimming.

And now that the plans of the Conneltsville School Board have received the cordial endorsement of the people, it is hoped that the directors will lose no time in getting the new buildings under way. A special effort should now be made to get the schools ready for occupancy this fall or winter.

Much will depend upon material, but more on haste.

MOVE THE PLANTS HERE!

If it pays to haul Lake ores to Pittsburgh and smelt them there with coke hauled from the Conneltsville region, or with coke made in by-product ovens from coal hauled from the Conneltsville region or elsewhere, why would it not pay just as well to make iron right here where coal and coke is produced?

Desirable plant locations are numerous and cheap. The only question which might arise would be piping it to Pittsburgh, or by establishing diversified industries in the coke region.

The latter plan ought to be satisfactory all around. Pittsburgh complains constantly of its smoke. By this arrangement the smoke will be transferred to the Conneltsville region. We here we are used to smoke, and we welcome it because we know it spouts Prosperity.

If Governor Brumbaugh thought he was eliminating William A. Magee from politics by appointing him to the head of the Public Service Commission he was mistaken. But perhaps the Governor did not intend to eliminate Magee, but to retain him as a Helping Hand.

After fifteen years of hesitation on the part of manufacturers, steel rails have been advanced from \$28 to \$33 per ton.

The Courier is at a great deal of trouble and some cost in collecting its statistics of the Conneltsville coke trade and it cannot understand why its local contemporaries persistently refuse to give the proper credit when using the figures. Such credit is always extended by the trade papers and the large dailies which use the data from week to week.

The High School will celebrate the approval of the bond issue and the construction of a new school building of noble proportions and classic design by playing a return engagement of Shakespeare.

It must keep the Du Ponts busy rebuilding their powder mills.

Uniontown is prosperous. She has declared a dividend.

Thomas Henry Brown of Vanderbit complains that the Helping Hand gave him an awful Push.

The Dickinson Road grade crossing will soon be a thing of the past. It will cost the county over \$5,000, but it is cheap at the price.

Regard Harding Davis died with his boots on.

CONSERVATION; CONFORMATION.

The Bureau of Mines preaches a timely sermon on the conservation of the American oil deposits. It points out the appalling waste under the present system of promiscuous well drilling with no regard to the requirements of the market and no attempt at systematic production. "There can be no satisfactory condition in the petroleum producing industry," says the Bureau of Mines, "until there is some intelligent co-ordination between the running of the drill and the requirements of the market."

The Bureau of Mines is preaching the forbidden doctrine of combination. Co-ordination means co-operation which is never so effective until guaranteed by combination, either by actual merger into a big corporation or by the formation of a pool. Both combinations are unlawful, the principal difference between them being that the corporation is an open and the pool a secret combination. The corporation is more susceptible to the law, but the pool is prone to leak and dissolve through its own weakness.

The policy of conservation can profitably be applied to many American resources. Our coal and ore deposits, for example. The day is coming when this policy will be adopted. Its adoption will be necessary in order to maintain our industrial competition with Germany and England.

Before it is put into practice, however, we will have to change our policy with regard to corporations, especially large corporations. The government will have to encourage the big industrial mills, not destroy them. The remedy for Trust evils is Government regulation. The relation of the Government to the corporations should be paternal not inimical. The Government should see that the big corporations play fair, and after that it should enforce the principles of conservation upon all industrial interests alike.

This means more centralized power in the Government, but the country has long since ceased to worry about this condition. We have seen how suddenly the American people resumed control of their government when its administration didn't suit them, and we are due to have another illustration of the process this fall.

WATER WAGON FOR PIT BOSSES. Safety First demands sober pit bosses.

This is the ultimatum of the mine examining boards of Western Pennsylvania almost without exception, and it is supported by public sentiment as well as the wishes of those immediately interested, to wit, the operators and the miners.

There has been some dalliance with the matter, but the demand for the enforcement of such a rule has been growing for some years past and may no longer be resisted. It is realized that too much depends upon the habits of the underground sentinels who set the signals and warnings of safety and danger.

While it may seem like a handbail to give up the use of stimulants, especially when taken in moderation, yet there is always the possibility that the man who drinks will some time drink in excess, and the matter of drinking is after all only a habit, which once broken troubles no more.

There is only one pit wagon for pit bosses and that is the water wagon.

TIME TO REJOICE. The United States Steel Corporation's untold orders are greater than ever, indicating that the tide of the steel business is rising higher. There are no present terrors to the Conneltsville coke region in the by-product situation, and it does not appear that there is any reason for the Conneltsville region to worry about the future.

It may happen that some of our ovens will shut down some time in the future, but our mines will continue to operate, and that will be much more profitable to us than to have the mines and ovens both closed down as they have been in the past on numerous occasions.

This is not the time to worry; it's the time to rejoice. The coke output is the greatest in the history of the Conneltsville region.

THE REPUBLICANS RULE. The Democratic organs are having a great time with Governor Brumbaugh. One day they cuss him and the next day they cuss him. They parade and pat him, then deride and denounce him, just as seems to be the custom of the Republican crowd and advance Democratic interests. Their incoherence is so manifest that it does not deceive anybody, not even the Governor.

In the meantime it might be observed that whatever factional quarrels the Republicans have at their primary election are going to be settled there. The Republican voters have no sympathy this year with kickers. They invite every man with ambition to present his claims at the primary, but they expect him to abide by the result.

The verdict of the primary is the Voice of the People.

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The revival of interest in Shakespeare's plays is said to be due to the fact that this is his tercentenary. June 11th, next, is the 400th anniversary of the burning of Colonel William Crawford at the stake in Upper Sandusky. The fact will be commemorated by the Ohio people of that section. It would be a good time to dedicate the Crawford memorial. In the meantime additional funds should be raised for that purpose.

Every now and then we read of the wonderful discovery by some chemical sharp of a compound from which gasoline, or a substitute therefor "just as good" may be produced for a few cents more gallon, but the product never appears on the market, and one begins to wonder whether it becomes Octopus.

A strange alarm is an alarming sound in the average community.

The organization of the Frick Welfare Society is characteristic of the Ohio spirit. It is a society for the betterment of the Frick family. That is what makes the Frick force so efficient. The members are willing to stick together.

The Courier is strictly first-class in all its features, typographically, editorially and politically. Now is the time to subscribe.

Some communities have hitherto been able to put it over on us in locating industrial establishments because of the fact that they had a coal and coke offer cheaper fuel contracts. The era of cheap natural gas is over, but an era of cheap coal is beginning in Conneltsville and Conneltsville finds itself right in the center of it. Our boasting organizations should advertise the fact far and wide. Conneltsville has the power with the Pitt.

Fayette county's new road construction bill has no lack of engineering and superintendence. There will be no harm in seeing that the work is well done.

Our railroads are developing some passenger locomotives. They are to place on the run but they run on just the same. A Western Maryland engine lost its driving rod below Conneltsville, but held on the course for some time until it was brought to a halt by the iron brake. The B. & O. has a locomotive which lost its driving wheel on the tracks and did not leave the track. The passenger train may be late these days of much freight, but it is comforting to know that they keep on the track.

It's no wonder some of the passenger trains are late. One railroad insists upon hauling one of its most popular trains with engine 1313.

The iron and steel plants of the Conneltsville coke plants and advancing the wages of their workmen.

District Factory Inspector Jimmy Durr's slogan seems to be, "Let no guilty school house escape."

The inauguration of swimming lessons as part of the Conneltsville school course will remove from the breasts of anxious parents a deadly terror of the Youghiogheny river.

"Our little taste of Mexican intervention is a deadly bitter," says the Times (a faithful Uniontown New Freedom standard). Yet President Wilson continues to run around with a chip on his shoulder just as if he felt that there was no issue left but Jimolism.

The trout have begun to bite the heels of fishermen.

Both railroads and automobiles must run through McKeesport on low rates or contribute to her misery, and she collects the money just as if she needs it.

"Thank God for Wilson and don't forget to cough up!" Bruce is running for Congress.

Senator Underwood's bill to enable the Government to take over the process for extracting nitrogen from the air has passed the Senate. If the Democrats could not agree upon a resolution to extract the hot air from Congress they would perform a great feat. They are not doing it. The same time do more to make themselves popular than all of the administration's Jimolism.

The pig iron output is at the rate of 400,000 tons annually and the Conneltsville coke output is following closely behind at 24,000,000 tons annually. The by-product bogey hasn't caught it yet.

The good old summer time is nearly here. The good old days are being recalled. Our smoking industries are burning it up as fast as it can be mined and delivered.

The printing press has been a great reformer. A century ago, whisky was the current medium of exchange in Western Pennsylvania.

"The Little Giant" continues to justify its name as a dividend-earner.

The Farmers' Club of Fayette County debated the question, "Does Farming Pay?" The decision in the affirmative was unanimous. Under the circumstances no other verdict was possible. Everybody was prosperous in spite of the Democratic tide.

The big guns have ceased to play on Condon and the citizens are mending their drums, that is to say their ears.

Carranza has dug Villa up and ordered the American troops out of Mexico. The troops are perfectly willing to come back to the country again and President Wilson is apparently afraid to pursue the matter any further. The war with Mexico is evidently over, but the present state of diplomatic war with Germany is a again.

Conneltsville is becoming a bigger railroad center every year.

The public institutions and utilities of Conneltsville are becoming models of their kind.

The Courier has endeavored to keep up with the times in the matter of Progress and Preparation.

In the Conneltsville coke region Frick Aid is becoming strictly First Class.

Private agreements in public bodies which cannot be entered upon the minutes at the time of their making them or at all should not be mentioned for the reason that they are invariably against public policy.

The Kaiser wants to be friends. It's all right. This is a political year. The Democratic administration is trying to draw public attention from its tariff record.

Women's skirts will be shorter than ever, but the bills will not be any less.

"An Old Kentucky Home" is the plan of the county school board. The work to be done is Pennsylvania. They evidently are not burning a soft shod. This county is not a back in nothing. This county is not a back in nothing. It needs workers, not loafers.

When Brothers of Uniontown, 9,000 acres of coal in Monroe Ohio, for \$200,000.

Looking Backward.

News of the Past Comes from the File The Courier.

Dates for County Fair.
The Westmoreland County Fair will be held at Youngwood on September 5-8 inclusive.

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